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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE LOCAL FISHING INDUSTRY'S EFFORTS TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABILITY AND FOOD SECURITY.

WHEREAS, Hawaii imports between eighty-five and ninety percent of its food, and in the event of a natural disaster or global event that prevents food shipment, Hawaii could face a devastating food shortage; and

WHEREAS, the practice of fishing has a long history in the culture of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, today, the availability of fresh locally-caught fish is a basic expectation in each of our communities; and

WHEREAS, the local fishing industry, especially the small boat fleet, is an important part of the State economy and food supply as it provides food for our residents and for visitors that expect local fish as part of their vacation experience; and

WHEREAS, fish are a sustainable food source, and our State's unique relationship with the ocean allows us the opportunity to integrate the local fishing industry into our food security profile; and

WHEREAS, policies on conservation and protection of marine resources should promote the concept that "fish is food," and encourage sustainability; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature strongly supports efforts by the local fishing industry to promote sustainability and food security; and

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 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature urges state departments to develop and update their rules and policies to integrate the local fishing industry into any food security or sustainability strategies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; the Director of Business, Economic Development and Tourism; and the Executive Director of the Hawaii Fisherman's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition.

OFFERED BY:

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